

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method for dynamic preemption of read returns over a half-duplex bus during heavy loading conditions involves asserting a preempt signal by a first agent to indicate that the first agent has a read request pending for transmission 5 over the half-duplex bus. A second agent then samples the preempt signal sent by the first agent. The second agent relinquishes ownership of the half-duplex bus responsive to the preempt signal to allow the read request to be sent across the half-duplex bus.

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